



HIV/AIDS AMONG MINORITIES* IN GEORGIA GEORGIA OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

The proportion of HIV/AIDS cases in Georgia has shifted from largely white “men who have sex with men” to mainly African-Americans, with increasing proportions of women, persons infected by heterosexual contact, and persons residing in rural areas.

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) causes AIDS. The most common mode of transmitting HIV is through unprotected sexual contact with a person with HIV. HIV is transmitted among injection drug users by sharing needles, syringes or drug paraphernalia contaminated with HIV-infected blood. It is now extremely rare for HIV to be transmitted through blood transfusions or blood products.

Reduce Your Chances of HIV Infection:

Abstain from sexual intercourse and using needles!

Get involved in a monogamous relationship with someone who is HIV negative!

Discuss HIV with your sexual partners before sex!

Use male or female latex condoms correctly and consistently!

Don't share needles and syringes!

Get tested for HIV, especially if you are pregnant to reduce the chances of passing HIV to your baby!

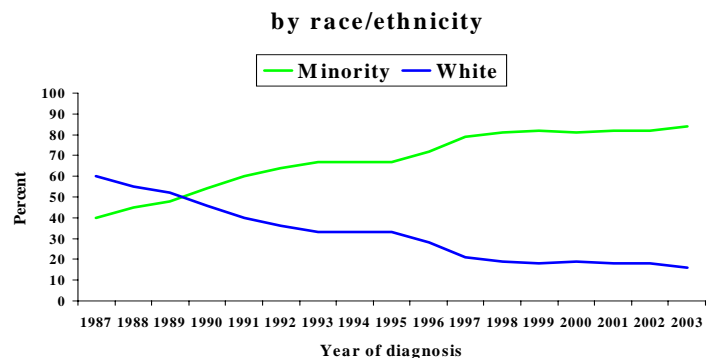
**Minorities include Blacks/African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asians/Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders, and American Indians/Alaska Natives.*

It's A Fact

- Although Georgia is 10th in population, Georgia had the 7th highest rate of reported AIDS cases in 2003, 8th highest total number of AIDS cases reported as of 2003, and 8th highest number of people living with AIDS as of 2003.
- In 2003, the number of AIDS cases among whites in Georgia was 226, compared to 1,109 among African-Americans, 75 among Hispanics/Latinos, and 9 among Asians/Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders.
- Of the 28,041 cumulative AIDS cases in Georgia, African-Americans were 18,278 (65 percent).
- African-American females (27.8 per 100,000) had an AIDS rate twenty times that of white females (1.4 per 100,000) in 2003 in Georgia.
- From 1999 to 2003, there was a 150 percent increase in the number of Hispanics/Latinos reported with AIDS (from 30 cases in 1999 to 75 cases in 2003) in Georgia.

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, Vol. 15, and HIV/AIDS Reporting System (HARS), Georgia Division of Public Health (December 2004).

Percent of AIDS Cases in Georgia, 1987 – 2003



The proportion of AIDS cases among minorities in Georgia has increased dramatically from 40% in 1987 to 84% in 2003.

For more information on HIV/AIDS data, contact the Georgia Office of Minority Health, HIV/AIDS TAKE Project at 404-463-3965 or visit www.communityhealth.state.ga.us